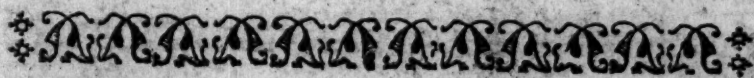




BEHIND THE
SCREEN.
A
VISION.

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3.
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L O N D O N :

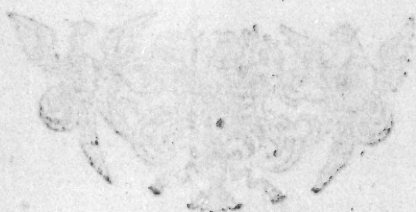
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SCIENCE



VISION.



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INTRODUCTION.



T has been an Argument amongst many other undeniable, of the seperate Existence of the Soul, that when the Body is at Rest, that is still employed in the Regions of Fancy, representing Things already past, and sometimes indicating to us what may here.

INTRODUCTION.

hereafter happen. I shall not here enter into the Reasoning upon this Subject ; but proceed to communicate to the Public, a most extraordinary Dream which I lately had, and which I shall leave to the *Wise Men* of the *Land* to Interpret.





BEHIND THE
SCREEN:
A
VISION.



Found myself on a sudden in a spacious Hall, or Kind of Exchange, crowded with People of all Ranks and Professions : At the upper End was a large Screen of *gilt Leather*, pierc'd thro'

thro' in many Places ; through which it was easy to discern what was doing behind it ; tho' many were very busy in endeavouring to repair these Peep-holes with *Gazetteers*, *Pamphlets*, *Commissions*, *Patents*, *Pasents*, *Bank-Bills*, &c. &c. &c.

Going to a Hole at one Corner, I observed a Woman who bore the Remains of Beauty, set off with all the Ornaments of *foreign* Drefs. On her right Hand was placed a young Lady, agreeable in her Person, and a peculiar Modesty in her whole De-meanour, blushing as from a Consci-ousness of superior Merit disgraced in such Society : On her Breast was written in Letters of Gold :



SHE

SHE SHALL BE A LADY.

On the other Side was a Creature as remarkably unfortunate in her Appearance, as the other was engaging; but on her Breast was written in Capital Letters,

THIRTY THOUSAND POUNDS.

Which seemed to render her not quite unworthy the Notice of two tall, well-made, civil Gentlemen in Regimentals; for whom also the Lady in the Middle (like *Autumn* between *Summer* and *Winter*) seem'd to bear the greatest Regard, which appeared not only from the gracious Smiles and tender Glances with which she fa-

B

your'd

your'd them alternatively, but from the Presents I percieved her to make to each of them, of the Subscription to a *NEW Opera*, in little filken Purfes, as ſhe recieved them from ſeveral young Men ; who, by their Appearance, and the Pains ſhe took to be agreeable to them, ſeem'd to be of the firſt Diſtinction.

Theſe, on their Part, were endeavouring, by all the little Arts of Flattery, to expreſs their Reſpect and Regard for the young Lady on her right Hand.

On a ſudden, hearing a Noiſe from behind the Screen at the other
End

End, I ran hastily thither, where a new Scene presented itself.

Two Men of very noble Appearance, the one with a Fiddle in one Hand and a Picture in the other ; the other with a Basket full of Ribbons of various Colours, but chiefly red, and a Golden Dish filled with Pine Apples and Truffles, seemed wholly to engage the Attention of a Crowd of white Feathers that surrounded them.

I was tempted by this extraordinary Appearance to lend an Ear to the Subject of their Declamation, which I found to be in Praise of *Luxury, Musick, Dress and Painting* ;

tho' so unintelligible was their *English*, and so larded with *French* and *Italian*, that it was with much Difficulty that I could understand their Meaning.

When each had finished his Harangue, there arose such a confused Noise of *Barbarini*, *Chloe*, *Monticelly*, &c. that I was glad to leave this Satire on Mankind ; and, turning from the *Screen*, I beheld another Crowd, but of a very different Appearance ; they were divided into two Bodies, and led by Chiefs, in whom they seem'd to repose the utmost Confidence.

These

These Men were, by slow Degrees, advancing towards an Altar, sacred to *Liberty* and *Justice* ; on which lay a Spear, which, as I found by the Inscription on it, had the Virtues *Milton* ascribes to *Ithuriels* ; for no Semblance can endure Touch of Cœlestial Temper, but returns of course to its own Likeness.

The Altar had been long railed in, and at each Side stood a Herd of Priests of *different* Orders, and at some Distance a Body of military Men with their Bayonets fix'd, as waiting the Command of their Masters ; but all these retired back as the Majestick Band of *Patriots* advanced

vanced ; and now the Rails began to open of themselves. Thousands of Voices cried out for *Justice* from all Corners of the Hall ; *Mercy* and *Pity* resounded from behind the *Screen*, when, of a sudden, the two Chiefs stooped down, as to pick up something that lay in their Way. How great was the Surprize of the whole Assembly ! when the one leaving his ever honourable Friend, retired to a Corner with something like an EARL's CORONET, while, thro' a sort of *Remains of Honour*, and *Sense of Shame*, he endeavoured in vain for some time to conceal.

The other publicly set himself down to open a VELVET BAG, and seemed

seemed to laugh at his late Companions ; who finding themselves deserted by their Leader, and not knowing who *safely to trust* after such a Treachery, with downcast Looks, and despairing of future Success, seperated in Confusion.

When behold the Screen vanish'd, and there appeared in a Chair of State, a FAT OLD MAN, array'd in all the Ensigns of Authority that can distinguish or justify the insolent Ambition of the most aspiring Subject.

In his Right Hand he held an *empty Purse*, and in his Left, the Picture of an *Hydra*, on which was
written

written, in Capital Letters, the Word
T O R Y.

Under his Feet lay the *Sword* of
Justice, and around his Chair were
assembled all that Crowd of *Titled*
Flatterers I just now mentioned, sing-
ing aloud his Innocence and Victory;
some were employ'd in filling up the
Wrinkles in his Forehead, which
were grown very apparent with the
Danger he had just escaped; others
were performing the same Office to
one another; few were without
Brushes in their Hands, which they
dipp'd continually in two Copper
Cisterns which stood behind the
Chair; but the Liquor they con-
tained was different, the one a
kind

kind of *Varnish*, the other as *black* as *Ink*, with which they bespattered a *few* of that Honourable Band, which still remained in the Hall.

When, on a sudden, I was surprised with a confused Cry from without Doors ; the Noise was so great, that I awakened in the utmost Terror and Astonishment, at finding what had been so naturally represented to me, a *mere Dream*.

C

A



(71)

A
RECEIPT

To make a

----- L ---,

Occasion'd by

The REPORT of a Late
PR--M--T----N.

TAKE a Man who by Nature's a true
Son of Earth,

By Rapine enrich'd, tho' a Beggar by Birth:

In Genius the lowest, ill-bred and obscene,

Of Morals most wicked, most nasty in Mien,

By none ever trusted, yet ever employ'd,

In Blunders most fertile, of Merit quite void.

A Scold in the Senate, Abroad a Buffoon;

The Scorn and the Jest of all C---rts but his own;

A

A Slave to that Wealth, which ne'er made him a
 Friend,
 And proud of that Cunning which ne'er gain'd an
 End :

A Dupe in each Tr—ty, a *Swiss* in each V—te,
 In Manners and Form, a compleat *Hottentot*.
 Such a one could you find, of all Men I'd commend
 him,

But be sure let the Curse of each *Br—t-n* attend him.
 Thus fitly prepar'd, add the Grace of a Thr—ne,
 The Folly of M-n-rchs, and Screen of a Cr—n.
 Take a Pr-nce for this Purpose without Ears or
 Eyes,
 And a long Parchment P—tt—t, stuff brimful of
 Lies.

These mingled together, a *Fiat* shall pass,
 And the Thing strut a P—r, who before was an
 Ass.

Probatum est.

On

11/60

H86

x1-

[A]-Bⁿ, C²

*On a late Accident to a MAGPIE,
dropt in a Catalogue of Birds of
various Kinds and Colours, &c.*

THY Horse and Thee, does Things by
Halves,

Thou, through Irresolution,
Hurts Friends and Foes, Thy self and Me,
The K—— and C——n——t——t——n.



F I N I S.

